

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/582,474

Examiner

Timothy L. Rude

Applicant(s)

SEKIGUCHI, KANETAKA

Art Unit

2871

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the corresponding address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 21 August 2003
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 5-7, 10-15, 17, 20, 21, 24, 26, 28-34, 36, 38-40, 42-44 and 46-55.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 27 June 2000 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * Certified copies not received: _____.
5. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
(a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
6. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. **THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE**

7. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
8. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS must be submitted.
(a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No. _____.
(b) ☐ including changes required by the proposed drawing correction filed _____, which has been approved by the Examiner.
(c) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No. _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet.

9. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- 1 ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
3 ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
5 ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449), Paper No. _____.
7 ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
- 2 ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
4 ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No. _____.
6 ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8 ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9 ☐ Other

TLR

DETAILED ACTION

Claims

1. Claims 11, 13, 15, and 30 are amended. Claim 55 is added.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2. Rejection of claims 5, 10, and 34 under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, is withdrawn.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 5-7, 10-15, 17, 20, 21, 24, 26, 28-34, 36, 38-40, 42-44, and 46-55 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

As to claims 5, 10, and 34, relevant prior art of record did not disclose a liquid crystal display device as claimed comprising: a white diffusion film disposed adjacently to the second substrate, on a side of the second substrate, opposite the liquid crystal, no polarizer being provided between the second substrate and the white diffusing film, a polarizing film disposed on a side of the white diffusing film, opposite the second substrate, and a reflector disposed on a side of the polarizing film, opposite the white diffusing film; said white diffusing film allowing circularly polarized light to pass therethrough substantially as circularly polarized light. The closest reference is Iijima

who teaches a similar structure with a polarizer provided between the second substrate and the white diffusing film. No reference with motivation to combine was found to teach no polarizer provided between the second substrate and the white diffusing film.

As to claim 11, relevant prior art of record did not disclose a liquid crystal display device as claimed comprising: a white diffusion film disposed on the visible side of the first substrate so as to be in direct contact with the first substrate, a polarizing film without reflection characteristics disposed on the visible side of the white diffusion, and a reflector disposed on a side of the second substrate, opposite the liquid crystal; said white diffusing film allowing circularly polarized light to pass therethrough substantially as circularly polarized light. The closest reference is Iijima who teaches a similar structure with a white diffusing film not in direct contact with the first substrate. No reference with motivation to combine was found to teach a white diffusing film not in direct contact with the first substrate as claimed.

As to claims 32 and 33, relevant prior art of record did not disclose a liquid crystal display device as claimed comprising: a diffusion layer having regions around the pixels of a diffusibility differing from the regions over the pixels. The closest reference is Iijima as applied above, but Iijima does not disclose the claimed structure.

As to claims 13, 15, and 30, relevant prior art of record did not disclose a liquid crystal display device as claimed comprising: a polarizing film without reflection

characteristics disposed on a side of the second substrate, opposite the liquid crystal, a white diffusing film disposed on a side of the polarizing film, opposite the second substrate, so as to be in direct contact with the polarizing film, and a reflector disposed on a side of the white diffusing film, opposite the polarizing film; said white diffusing film allowing circularly polarized light to pass therethrough substantially as circularly polarized light. The closest reference is Iijima who teaches a similar structure with a white diffusing film that is not explicitly in direct contact with the polarizing film. No reference with motivation to combine was found to teach a white diffusing film that is explicitly in direct contact with the polarizing film.

As to claims 6, 7, 12, 14, 17, 20, 21, 24, 26, 28, 29, 31, 36, 38-40, 42-44, and 46-55, they are directly or indirectly dependent upon claims with allowable subject matter above.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

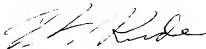
References cited but not applied are relevant to the instant Application.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Timothy L Rude whose telephone number is (703) 305-0418. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday.

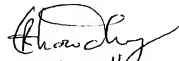
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert H Kim can be reached on (703) 305-3492. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 872-9306 for regular communications and (703) 872-9306 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-4900.



Timothy L Rude
Examiner
Art Unit 2871

TLR
October 23, 2003



T. Chowdhury
Primary Examiner